

COUNTRY DATA: Cambodia: Information from the CIA World Factbook

INTRODUCTION

Most Cambodians consider themselves to be Khmers, descendants of the Angkor Empire that extended over much of Southeast Asia and reached its zenith between the 10th and 13th centuries. Attacks by the Thai and Cham (from present-day Vietnam) weakened the empire, ushering in a long period of decline. The king placed the country under French protection in 1863 and it became part of French Indochina in 1887. Following Japanese occupation in World War II, Cambodia gained full independence from France in 1953. In April 1975, after a five-year struggle, Communist Khmer Rouge forces captured Phnom Penh and evacuated all cities and towns. At least 1.5 million Cambodians died from execution, forced hardships, or starvation during the Khmer Rouge regime under POL POT. A December 1978 Vietnamese invasion drove the Khmer Rouge into the countryside, began a 10-year Vietnamese occupation, and touched off almost 13 years of civil war. The 1991 Paris Peace Accords mandated democratic elections and a ceasefire, which was not fully respected by the Khmer Rouge. UN-sponsored elections in 1993 helped restore some semblance of normalcy under a coalition government. Factional fighting in 1997 ended the first coalition government, but a second round of national elections in 1998 led to the formation of another coalition government and renewed political stability. The remaining elements of the Khmer Rouge surrendered in early 1999. Some of the surviving Khmer Rouge leaders have been tried or are awaiting trial for crimes against humanity by a hybrid UN-Cambodian tribunal supported by international assistance. Elections in July 2003 were relatively peaceful, but it took one year of negotiations between contending political parties before a coalition government was formed. In October 2004, King Norodom SIHANOUK abdicated the throne and his son, Prince Norodom SIHAMONI, was selected to succeed him. Local elections were held in Cambodia in April 2007, with little of the pre-election violence that preceded prior elections. National elections in July 2008 were relatively peaceful.

GEOGRAPHY

Location	Southeastern Asia, bordering the Gulf of Thailand, between Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos
Area	total: 181,035 sq km country comparison to the world: <u>89</u> land: 176,515 sq km water: 4,520 sq km
Climate	tropical; rainy, monsoon season (May to November); dry season (December to April); little seasonal temperature variation
Natural Resources	oil and gas, timber, gemstones, iron ore, manganese, phosphates, hydropower potential
Total Renewable Water Resources	476.1 cu km (1999)
Freshwater Withdrawal	total: 4.08 cu km/yr (1%/0%/98%) per capita: 290 cu m/yr (2000)

Natural Hazards	monsoonal rains (June to November); flooding; occasional droughts
Environmental Issues	illegal logging activities throughout the country and strip mining for gems in the western region along the border with Thailand have resulted in habitat loss and declining biodiversity (in particular, destruction of mangrove swamps threatens natural fisheries); soil erosion; in rural areas, most of the population does not have access to potable water; declining fish stocks because of illegal fishing and overfishing
PEOPLE	
Population	14,701,717
Ethnic Groups	Khmer 90%, Vietnamese 5%, Chinese 1%, other 4%
Religions	Buddhist (official) 96.4%, Muslim 2.1%, other 1.3%, unspecified 0.2% (1998 census)
Languages	Khmer (official) 95%, French, English
Literacy Rate	definition: age 15 and over can read and write total population: 73.6% male: 84.7% female: 64.1% (2004 est.)
Major Infectious Diseases	degree of risk: very high food or waterborne diseases: bacterial and protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever vectorborne diseases: dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis, and malaria <i>note:</i> highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza has been identified in this country; it poses a negligible risk with extremely rare cases possible among US citizens who have close contact with birds (2009)
GOVERNMENT	
Type	multiparty democracy under a constitutional monarchy
Independence	9 November 1953 (from France)
Constitution	promulgated 21 September 1993
Legal System	primarily a civil law mixture of French-influenced codes from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) period, royal decrees, and acts of the legislature with influences of customary law and remnants of communist legal theory; increasing influence of common law; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction with reservations
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	rice, rubber, corn, vegetables, cashews, tapioca, silk
Industries	tourism, garments, construction, rice milling, fishing, wood and wood products, rubber, cement, gem mining, textiles
Import commodities	petroleum products, cigarettes, gold, construction materials, machinery, motor vehicles, pharmaceutical products

Import Partners	Thailand 24.83%, Vietnam 19.73%, China 14.08%, Singapore 11.34%, Hong Kong 7.41%, Taiwan 5.1%, South Korea 4.06% (2009)
Export Commodities	clothing, timber, rubber, rice, fish, tobacco, footwear
Export Partners	US 45.32%, Singapore 9.46%, Germany 7.52%, UK 7.07%, Canada 6.31%, Vietnam 4.15% (2009)
Per Capita GDP	\$2,000 (2010 est.)
Population below poverty line	31% (2007 est.)

*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

COUNTRY: CAMBODIA

General	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	62.2
Average number of years in School (in years)	5.8
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	1,868
Gender Inequality	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	15.8
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	11.6
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	20.6
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	75.6
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	85.5
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	44
Poverty	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	25.8
Empowerment	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	1
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	11
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	14

Sustainability	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	29
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	71
Population without Access to Water (%)	39
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	71
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	62,992
Human Security	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	17.3
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	..
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	25
Demographics	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	20.1
Health	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.3
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.8
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	0.8
Other	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	50.5
Population without Electricity (%)	76.9

